1	2	3	4
Tejpur	35	Korua	Planned
	36	Khanamukh	Commissioned
	37	Dhimakuchi	
	38	Shantipur	Planned
Dibrugarh	39	Khatkhti	Commissioned
Kamrup	40	Gorchuck	Commissioned

Note: Exchanges Commissioned = 17
Yet to be commissioned = 23

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

New Policy for agro and rural Industries

1606. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new policy for agro and rural industries in view of the recent change in the economic liberalisation and globalisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is engaged in an exercise to evolve a policy to strengthen this sector so that it adopts itself to the changing environment and also effectively face the challenges in view of the economic liberalisation and globalisation.

(c) Does not arise.

Potential of agro industries

1607. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the potential of Agro industries in the country, State-wise;

(b) how much it has been utilized, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for which its utilization is not uniform in all the States in proportion to its potential and population;

(d) what efforts are being made to exploit potential of the agro industries; and

(e) in view of Bihar being an agricultural State void of heavy industries, what efforts are being made to popularize agro industries there in order to provide employment and income to poor population of the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) to (e) Agro industries throughout the country have large potential but it has not been utilised fully. The policies and programmes of various States including factors such as inadequate infrastructure, lack of marketing facilities and insufficient credit facilities etc. have an effect on the utilisation of potential of agro industries therein.

While there is no special programme to popularize agro and rural industries in Bihar, the Government is actively promoting the Rural Employment Generation, Programme in all the States including Bihar in order to provide employment. Under this scheme, the KVIC provides margin money assistance at the rate of 25-30%. Projects costing upto Rs. 25 lakhs can be taken up under this programme. The scheme is being implemented through Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks etc. The Project sanctioned/financed by the KVIC through the Public Sector, Regional Rural Banks etc. are indicated in the statement. (*See* below)

In order to further strengthen the KVI sector, a package was announced by the Government on 14.05.2001, which is under different phases of implementation. The package consist of a Rebate Policy for five years, option of Rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilites measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc.

Statement

State-wise projects financed (Provisional) as on 30.06.2002 under REGP

S. No.	States/Union Territories	No. of Projects
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9958
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	317
3.	Assam	425
4.	Bihar	545
5.	Goa	1931
6.	Gujarat	685
7.	Haryana	3509
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1068
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5754
10.	Karnataka	10413
11.	Kerala	5592
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16780
13.	Maharashtra	16805
14.	Manipur	623
15.	Meghalayā	2784
16.	Mizoram	734
17.	Nagaland	4665
18.	Orissa	1467
19.	Punjab	7363
20.	Rajasthan	20365
21.	Sikkim	20
22.	Tamil Nadu	3492
23.	Tripura	48
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11710
25.	West Bengal	11441

1	2	3
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	162
27.	Chandigarh	139
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	8
29.	Daman & Diu	0
30.	Delhi	203
31.	Lakshdweep	01
32.	Pondicherry	899
33.	Jharkhand	200
34.	Chhattisgarh	218
35.	Uttaranchal	361
	TOTAL:	**140685**

Closing of Agro and Rural Industries

1608. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the agro and rural industries have been closed down during the last three years;

(b) the figures of the agro and rural small-scale sector industries closed down during the last three years;

(c) whether Soyabean processing plants have been either closed down or have become sick in Madhya Pradesh and in other States; and

(d) if so, the details of sickness in Soyabean processing industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. However, some units do closed down.

(b) Such information is not maintained centrally.

(c) and (d) There are 159 Soyabean-crushing plants in the country, out of which 79 are located in Madhya Pradesh. Nearly, 60% of the plants are closed or have become sick mainly due to paucity of raw materials.